GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2713
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2017
Online Sale of Medicines
Patil Shri Kapil Moreshwar;Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

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(a) whether the Government is considering to allow online sale of medicines;

(b) if so, the details thereof and problems likely to arise due to such a step;

(c) whether the Government proposes to impose restriction on some medicines to prevent its misuse and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of monitoring mechanisms likely to be followed by the Government to keep check on the online sale of drugs?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)

(a) & (b): A Sub-Committee had been constituted by the Drugs Consultative Committee (DCC) to examine issues relating to online sale of drugs. The Sub-Committee has submitted its report to the Drugs Consultative Committee. The Sub-Committee has inter alia recommended:-
â€¢ Creation of a National Portal to act as the nodal platform for transacting and monitoring online sale of drugs.
â€¢ Necessity of evolving a mechanism to register e-pharmacies.
â€¢ Geographical restrictions for operation of e-pharmacies.
â€¢ Existing licencees involved in retail sale of drugs could also register on the National Portal for carrying out online sale of drugs.
â€¢ certain categories of drugs viz. the Narcotic and Psychotropic drugs, tranquilizers, habit forming drugs and Schedule X drugs that are prone to being abused or misused be excluded from sale through e-pharmacies.

(c) & (d): All matters relating to sale of drugs including through online will continue to be regulated in accordance with the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 as amended from time to time. Restrictions on sale of drugs included in Schedule H, H1 and X are elaborated in the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945.